

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Confirmation No.: 3641

Gottfried STEINER

Date: October 31, 2006

U.S. Serial No.: 10/559,366

Art Unit: 1722

International Application No.: PCT/EP2004/005895

International Filing Date: June 1, 2004

For: METHOD FOR BINDING WOOD BASE ELEMENTS WITH PLASTIC

VIA EFS-WEB

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLACEMENT PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, kindly amend the application as follows:

In the event the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS

1. If checked, an abstract (an amended abstract) is submitted herewith.
2. If checked, amendment(s) to the drawings are submitted herewith.
3. X If checked, amendment(s) to the specification are submitted herewith.
4. X If checked, amendment(s) to the claims are submitted herewith.